

**SHREWSBURY'S ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT
&
SHREWSBURY'S COMMUNITY CABLEVISION**

COMMISSION MEETING

April 28, 2003 – 7:00 PM

MINUTES

**PRESENT: S. DAVIS
C. JEFFERSON, Jr., Chairman
R. LUTZ
J. TOMAIOLO
A. TRIPPI**

ABSENT: NONE

OTHERS

**PRESENT: T. JOSIE
J. TERRASI
F. PAIKA
T. DESILETS**

1. Approve Bill Schedules

The bill schedules were reviewed and approved as presented.

2. Minutes – Light Commission Meeting – March 31, 2003

A motion:

To approve the minutes of the March 31, 2003 Light Commission meeting was made by J. Tomaiole and seconded by C. Jefferson, Jr.

After a brief discussion, the motion was voted unanimously.

3. New Image/Brand Campaign

T. Desilets presented two suggestions for a new company name - "Shrewsbury Networks" and "Shrewsbury's Energy and Telecommunications" along with examples of letterhead logos for the Light Commission's consideration.

A. Trippi suggested the new name of "SELCO" – *Shrewsbury Electric Light and Communications*.

After further discussion, the Commission agreed to table their decision in order to review new options, including "SELCO."

They instructed T. Desilets to return with additional names for their consideration and review.

4. CATV Rate Adjustment

T. Josie presented a draft of a report that will be presented to the Board of Selectmen at the Selectmen's meeting on May 12, 2003. The report is entitled "Request for Approval – CATV Rate Adjustment – Effective July 1, 2003" to the Commission.

He recommended a rate increase for the following reasons: based on this year's budget, a diminished cash flow; the last rate increase was two years ago; signal costs have increased significantly; and SCC's rates are much lower than the competition.

The rate increase recommended at this time is an increase of \$3.00 on the Expanded Basic rate and \$1.00 on the Basic rate is recommended at this time.

Along with the rate increase, additional programming will be offered on the Expanded Basic line-up that will include TV Land and fX.

T. Josie added that he would make the adjustments to this report regarding NESN signal costs before presenting it to the Selectmen.

5. Electric Deregulation Legislation

T. Josie informed the Commission that this is part of the original legislation where municipal light departments conduct a study if the system has not been opened to customer choice by March 2003.

He commented that the Town Manager reviewed the legislation/study requirements and suggested that option 3 be exercised.

Options considered included,

1. SELP complete a study and present it to the Selectmen for review, a hearing and approval
2. Utilize the existing study from RMI and present it to the Selectmen
3. Advise the Selectmen of their obligation to do a study
4. Do nothing

After further discussion, the Commission directed that the General Manager will send a note to the Town Manager stating that they have opted for Option 3 and place the study into the Selectmen's hands.

6. Additional Capital Project – Meter Test Board

T. Josie reported that a new meter test board is needed in order to test for accuracy of electric meters and it is his recommendation that this be added to the 2003 Electric Capital Budget. The cost of a new test board is \$30,000 including training.

A motion,

To approve the addition of \$30,000 to the 2003 Capital Budget for the purpose of buying a new Meter Test Board was made by R. Lutz and seconded by C. Jefferson.

After no further discussion, the motion was voted unanimously.

7. March Cash Statements

The Commission agreed that M. Quitadamo is doing an excellent job putting together the monthly statements.

a. Light

After a brief review and discussion, the electric cash statements for February were accepted as presented.

b. CATV

After a brief review and discussion, the CATV cash statements for February were accepted as presented.

8. Compensation Study

T. Josie reported that the consultant appears to be doing a good job to date and recommendations are expected by mid-June in order that the Commission may make a decision by July.

9. Other

- Rate Comparisons

T. Josie reported that Mass Electric's rates are going up.

10. Operating Brief – Review

The Commission reviewed and accepted the Operating Brief as presented.

11. Fox/SCC Scholarship – Review and Selection

The Commission agreed that “need” be a major consideration while reviewing and selecting the two scholarship recipients.

Each Commissioner announced their top three selections.

After further discussion and calculations, Nick Murano and Erica Cove were selected as this year's Fox/SCC Scholarship recipients.

The next Light Commission meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, May 12, 2003.

A motion,

To adjourn the meeting was made by A. Trippi and seconded by C. Jefferson.

After no further discussion, the motion was voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert F. Lutz, Clerk
Shrewsbury's Light Commission